

## United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO.                 | FILING DATE   | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/779,497                      | 02/09/2001    | Kazuya Nishino       | 1095.1158/JDH       | 5669             |
| 21171                           | 7590 03/11/20 |                      | EXAMINER            |                  |
| STAAS & HALSEY LLP<br>SUITE 700 |               |                      | WASYLCHAK, STEVEN R |                  |
| 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.      |               |                      | ART UNIT            | PAPER NUMBER     |
| WASHINGTON, DC 20005            |               |                      | 3624                |                  |

DATE MAILED: 03/11/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application/Control Number: 09/779497

Art Unit: 3624

## Response to Amendment

The reply filed on June 20, 2003 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): the remarks do not point out why newly added claim 10 is patentable in view of the prior art of record as required by 37C.F.R. 1.111(b). Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given a time period of ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. Extensions of this time period may be granted under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)

This action is NON-Final. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven R. Wasylchak whose telephone number is (703) 308-2848. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin, can be reached at (703) 308-1065. The fax number for Art Unit 3624 is (703) 305-7687.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

Steven Wasylchak 2/27/04

R. GEOFFREY R. AKERS, P.E.

Page 2